

HASBRO
COMPETITION

REDAN

I LOVE TO READ

WITH

BATMAN
WORKBOOK

BATMAN

INSIDE:
THE ATOM



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 ACTION  STORIES  ADVENTURE 



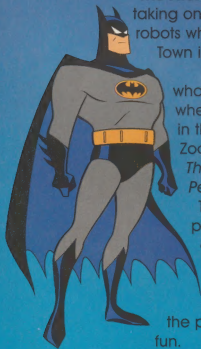
INTRODUCTION

Here we are again with another issue of **I Love to Read Batman** packed with stories, puzzles and a great **COMPETITION**. We have 65 sets of **Batman Crime Squad** toys from Hasbro to give away as prizes. All will be revealed on page 23, so get to it quickly and send in your entries NOW!

The stories this month will thrill you! In *The Darker Knight* Batman must capture a man who dresses just like the Dark Knight himself. But instead of upholding the law the Darker Knight helps out the criminals.

The Atom is back, taking on some tiny robots who threaten Ivy Town in *The Creators*. And find out what happens when the penguins in the Gotham City Zoo disappear in *The Missing Penguins*.

These stories plus lots of activity pages make this an unmissable issue! So turn the pages and have fun.



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REDAN I LOVE TO READ

BATMAN™

3 THE DARKER KNIGHT

Batman must stop an evil shadow of himself who is helping Gotham City's criminals commit their crimes.

8 THE CREATORS

The Atom is the only one able to help Ivy Town's citizens when they are imprisoned by a huge wall surrounding the town.

12 POSTER

A great poster of Batman and Gotham's worst criminals for you put up on your wall.

15 BATMAN WORKBOOK

An eight-page pull-out workbook full of puzzles and games especially for you.

22 COLOURING

Robin is ready for action in this picture for you to colour.

23 HASBRO COMPETITION

There are lots of Batman Crime Squad prizes to be won in this great competition.

24 THE MISSING PENGUINS

All the penguins are stolen from the Gotham City Zoo. Batman and Robin must find and rescue them.

28 PICK THE PENGUIN

A penguin puzzle to perplex you!

29 VILLAIN PROFILE

This time, the spotlight's on the Penguin.

30 DYNAMIC DISPATCHES

Two pages filled with pictures, photos and letters sent in by you, our readers.

In Gotham City, the fight against crime never stops. The police are constantly in pursuit of criminals.



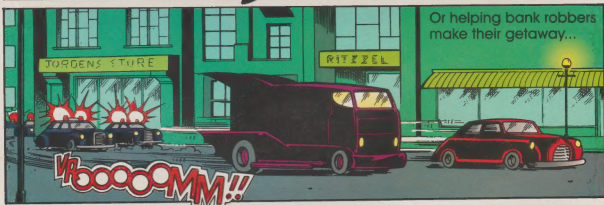
But one night someone started fighting back on the side of crime!

SCRAM,
BOYS. I'LL
HANDLE THESE
COPS!



Featuring





The police were
at the end of
their tether.

IDEAS,
BATMAN?

HE'S
MODELLING HIMSELF
ON ME...THE COSTUME, THE
METHODS...BUT HE'S
FIGHTING AGAINST
THE LAW.

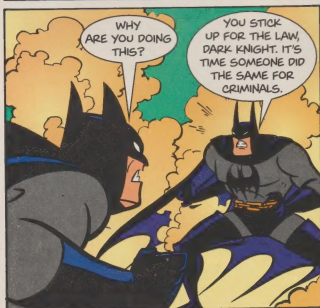
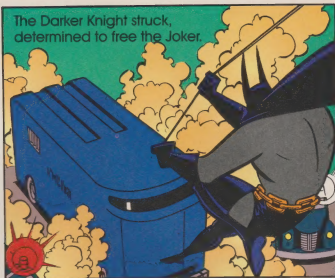
HE MUST
BE STOPPED, AND TO
DO THAT, I'LL NEED YOUR
HELP, AND I'LL NEED
THE JOKER.

WHAT!!

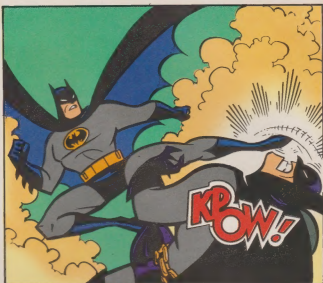
Two night's later, on
Commissioner Gordon's
instructions, the Joker was
transferred from Arkham
Asylum to Blackgate prison.

YOU DIDN'T
HAVE TO MOVE ME,
COMMISH! I LIKE IT AT
THE ASYLUM!

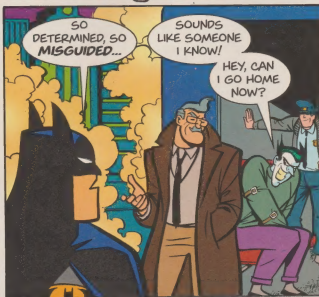
REMINDS
ME OF
HOME!



The Knight was powerful. But Batman had years of skill and experience behind him.



The police closed in and took the criminals' champion away.



THE END

The Atom finds himself face to face with...



It was a fine, sunny morning in Ivy Town, but no one cared. A massive wall had sprung up around the town overnight.

The wall was fifty feet high. It blocked roads and rail lines, and completely cut off all communication links. It entirely contained Ivy Town, imprisoning the thousands of people who lived there.

No one could explain what it was made of, who had made it, or how it had been built in the few short hours of night-time darkness. By eight o'clock in the morning, with traffic backed up on the streets, the police were examining the wall. It was pale white, without a seam or a join. It was so smooth, no one could get a handhold or any kind of grip to climb it. The police tried using a grappling hook, but it just slipped off the top.

When the citizens of Ivy Town realised that all contact with the outside world had been lost, people

began to panic, and the police had their hands full. By mid-morning, the atmosphere in the town was running at fever pitch. The police told everyone to return home while they figured out what to do. The chief of police called upon Ivy University for help, and a party of scientists was bussed down to examine a section of the wall.

As the college bus arrived, the scientists saw that the police were about to blow a hole in the wall with explosive charges. They looked on from a safe distance as the charges blew. For a moment, as the smoke cleared, they could see a hole in the wall. But the brief cheer died away as, to their amazement, the hole slowly filled in and disappeared, as if by magic. The scientists were stunned.

Amongst the university experts was a young scientist named Ray Palmer who had a special way of

investigating the problem. Unknown to his colleagues and the other people around him, Ray was actually the incredible shrinking super hero known as *the Atom*!

Ray ducked out of sight and ran to the back of the bus. There he put on his special costume and became the Atom. He shrank down to less than a centimetre high and ran towards the wall. What he saw amazed him. Thousands of little robots, each one walking on six legs, and all of them microscopic in size, were marching to and from the wall in a long line that stretched away into the heart of the city. They moved like an army of ants, all working together, but too small for the human eye to see. The Atom realised that they had built the wall, and a closer look

showed that they were doing it atom by atom. When the police blew a hole in the wall, they had repaired it immediately at an atomic level.

The Atom followed the trail of marching robots which lead him right back to Ivy University. As he entered the lab where the robots were coming from, the Atom grew back to normal size. There he found a professor, Ivan Smalls, sitting at his workbench in despair.

"What's going on?" the Atom demanded.

Upset, Smalls explained that he thought that he had made a major breakthrough in "Nanotechnology", a new field of science in which solid matter itself can be manipulated and restructured an atom at a time.

"It's the ultimate form of engineering, a way into the future," said Smalls. "I built minute robots which I called 'Creators'. They work together following a central program, and can make as many other Creators as they need to perform the



tasks they're programmed to do."

"Very impressive," said the Atom.
"But what went wrong?"

Smalls explained, "I loaded a simple master program into the Creators' Central Processing Unit which was meant to make them serve the inhabitants of Ivy Town. They were to make the town safe and warm. But the Creators have taken this literally. They have built the wall around the city to keep it safe, trapping the inhabitants inside. Now they are constructing vents from the power station all across town to keep the city warm and I can't stop them."

The Atom shuddered. These misguided robots had trapped thousands of innocent men and women and were now going to slowly cook them! He had to stop the Creators. But how?

"It's impossible," sighed Smalls, waving a technical document. "I know how to deprogram the Creators' CPU, which is inside their microscopic

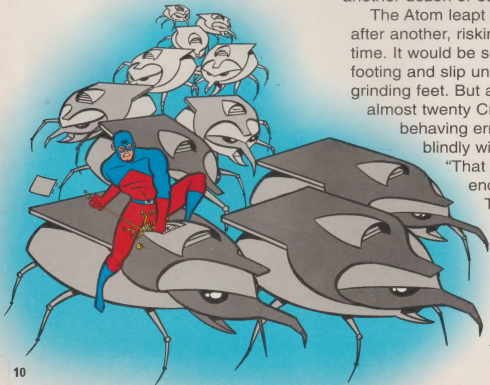
'home' in the corner of the lab. But I can't fit in there!"

"But I can!" said the Atom, as he read Smalls' instructions. He shrank down fast to a sub-atomic level, and hurried to the main entrance of the microscopic CPU, a hive-like structure that now towered over him like a castle. The ceaseless army of marching robots stomped up the ramp and then back outside from other exits, ready to perform more tasks. The Atom couldn't dodge round them, or go under them. He was nearly trampled by their marching feet. Instead, he shrank down further and leapt aboard one of the Creator robots and broke open its own control relay processor. Working fast, he reprogrammed the robot so that it started doing the reverse of its assigned tasks: marching against the flow and deconstructing what the others were building. There were far too many robots to deprogram in this way, but he set about sabotaging another dozen or so.

The Atom leapt aboard one robot after another, risking his neck each time. It would be so easy to miss his footing and slip under the smashing, grinding feet. But after half an hour, almost twenty Creators were behaving erratically, clashing blindly with their comrades.

"That should be enough," he thought. The disruption caused other creators to be reprogrammed to detain and dismantle the rebel robots.

This was the break the Atom needed.





As Creators were reassigned to deal with the glitch, gaps appeared in the ranks and he was able to slip through the robotic tide and enter the CPU proper. Inside, he ran as fast as he could, fearing that his presence as an alien invader would be spotted soon. Sure enough, special defence Creators armed with lethal pincers closed in on him. He enlarged himself slightly until his head bumped on the ceiling of the passage way. He used his strength and increased bulk to smash the attackers with a few well-aimed blows.

When he reached the heart of the CPU, the master control system was before him. He knew he only had seconds before more defenders moved in. He followed Smalls' instructions for deprogramming the Creators. He could hear the robots getting closer. If this didn't work...

On the edge of town, the police and the bystanders looked on in amazement as the wall slowly started to disappear, vanishing from the top down as if it were melting. The newly constructed heating vents also

gradually vanished, and the telephone lines came back on. The Atom had got the Creators to deconstruct everything they had previously made. The city was saved!

But back at the CPU, the Atom faced one last threat. His reverse of the command systems had been total, and the Creators were now un-making themselves and the CPU itself. He raced to escape from the CPU before it was deconstructed.

When he realised he would not make it in time, he enlarged himself, shooting up to full size. He shattered the entrance way to the CPU and burst through the roof of the "hive".

"You did it!" clapped the grateful Smalls as the Atom grew to normal size before his eyes.

"It was just a *little* problem," the Atom sighed with relief as he dusted himself down. "My specialty!"

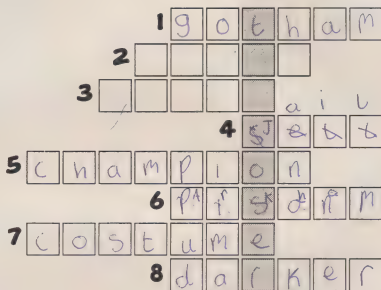
THE END



BATMAN™ WORKBOOK

WHO'S HIDDEN?

Write the correct answers to the clues in the boxes below. The letters in the shaded boxes will then reveal the name of one of Batman's enemies. All the answers are words from the story, *The Darker Knight*.

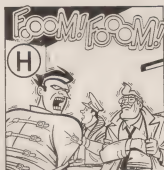
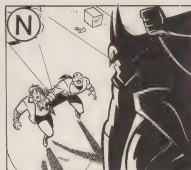
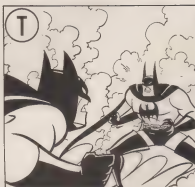


1. Batman's home city.
2. To battle.
3. Illegal action.
4. Another word for prison.
5. Winner or leader.
6. Gotham City's Asylum.
7. Outfit or disguise.
8. Opposite of lighter.



ALL MIXED UP

These pictures have been taken from the story, *The Darker Knight*. Put them in the **correct order** (1-6) and write the letter from each picture in the boxes below to find a word used in the story.

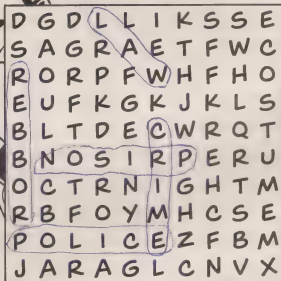


Knighth

K	N	G	I	H	T
1	2	3	4	5	6

SEARCH & FIND

The **10** words in the box below are taken from the story *The Darker Knight*. The words are hidden diagonally, backwards, forwards, up and down. Circle each word as you find it and tick it off on the list below.



LAW



PRISON



CRIME



DARKER



NIGHT



ROBBER



SKILL



COSTUME



POLICE



TEAR GAS



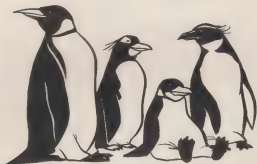
PEN-IT

In the story *The Missing Penguins*, the Penguin steals all of the penguins from the Gotham City Zoo. Some of the letters from the words below have been stolen too. They all contain the letters **PEN**. Answer the clues correctly and fill in the missing letters.



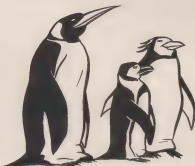
2. Necklace ornament.

PEN _ _ _ _



3. Opposite of closed.

_ PEN



4. To take place or occur.

_ _ _ PEN

5. Drawing tool.

PEN _ _ _

6. Five sided object.

PEN _ _ _ _ _

THE BIG FREEZE

The Penguin has locked himself inside the **Mmm-Yummy Ice-Cream Factory**. Take the first letter of each of the 8 picture clues below to spell the name of the yummy food he has found in this giant fridge. Write your answer in the boxes below.

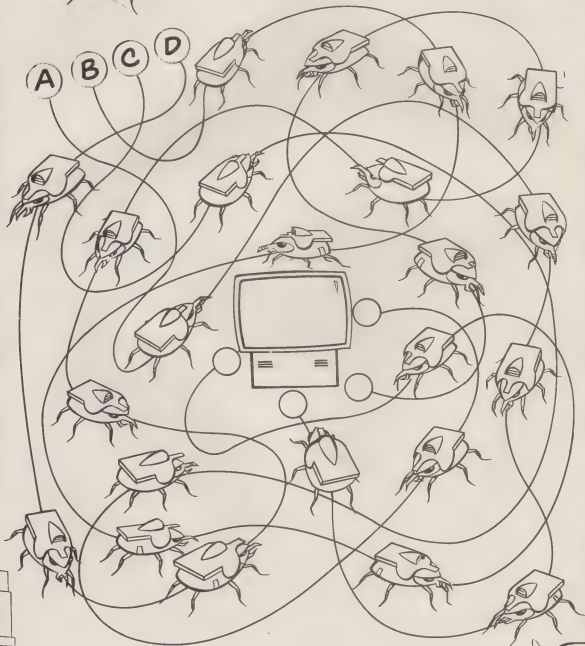


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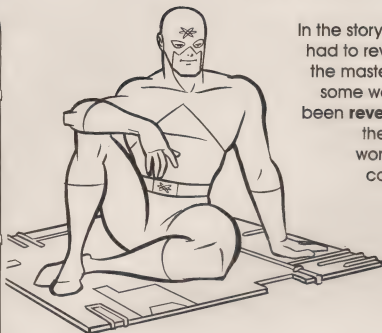
ROBOTIC MAZE



The Atom has to get to the heart of the CPU to reverse the commands of the Creators. Help him find the quickest route through the maze of wires below by finding the one with the fewest Creators along it. Count the number of Creators along each route and write the numbers in the circles provided.



IN REVERSE



In the story *The Creators*, the Atom had to reverse the commands on the master control system. Below, some words from the story have been **reversed**. Put a mirror along the dotted line to read the words. Write each word the correct way in the spaces provided.

1	ROBOT	_____
2	UNIVERSITY	_____
3	CONTROL	_____
4	PROCESSOR	_____
5	ALIEN	_____
6	SCIENTIST	_____
7	SMALLS	_____
8	WALL	_____
9	DEFENDER	_____

ANSWERS

WHO'S HIDDEN

1 G O T H A M
2 F I G H T
3 C R I M E
4 J A I L
5 C H A M P I O N
6 A R K H A M
7 C O S T U M E
8 D A R K E R

ALL MIXED UP

The word is KNIGHT.

SEARCH & FIND

~~R G D L L I K S S E~~
~~S A G R A E T F W Q~~
~~R O R P F W H F H O~~
~~E U F K G K J K L S~~
~~B L T D E C W R Q T~~
~~B N O S I A P E R U~~
~~O C T R N I G H T M~~
~~R B F O Y M H C S E~~
~~P O L I C E Z F B M~~
~~J A R A G L C N V X~~

PEN-IT

1. PENNY
2. PENDANT
3. OPEN
4. HAPPEN
5. PENCIL
6. PENTAGON

THE BIG FREEZE

Igloo - Cat - Easel,
Cheese - Rose - Egg,
Apple - Medal.

The word is **ICE-CREAM**.

ROBOTIC MAZE

- A=5
B=6
C=3
D=9

C is the quickest route.

IN REVERSE

1. ROBOT
2. UNIVERSITY
3. CONTROL
4. PROCESSOR
5. ALIEN
6. SCIENTIST
7. SMALLS
8. WALL
9. DEFENDER

REDAN

I LOVE TO READ

BATMAN™



COLOURING

Robin is always ready for action! So get your pens at the ready to colour in this great picture of the Teen Wonder before he flies off on yet another mission!





COMPETITION

BATMAN CRIME SQUAD™ FIGURES AND BATCYCLES MUST BE WON!

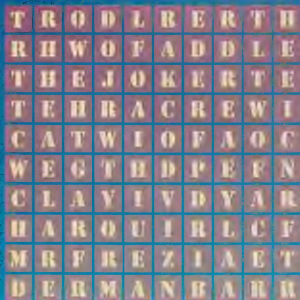


These new and dynamic **BATMAN CRIME SQUAD™** figures from Hasbro will bring you hours of action-packed play! Their unique transforming 'technoscape' batpacks and camouflaged suits make this an **allie BATMAN** and **ROBIN** mission team. With the help of the **CRIME SQUAD BATCYCLE™** with its motorised turbo power, they can track down Gotham City's worst villains.

HOW TO ENTER:

All you have to do for a chance to win one of **65 sets of BATMAN CRIME SQUAD™** figures and **BATCYCLES**, is find and draw a line through the names of the three Gotham City villains hidden in the wordsearch below. They are the Joker, the Riddler and Two-Face. Together, they are known as the **GOON SQUAD**. Then send your entry to: **Crime Squad Competition, The Redan Company, 139 King Street, London W6 9JG.**

Closing date: 8th November 1996



Name of entrant

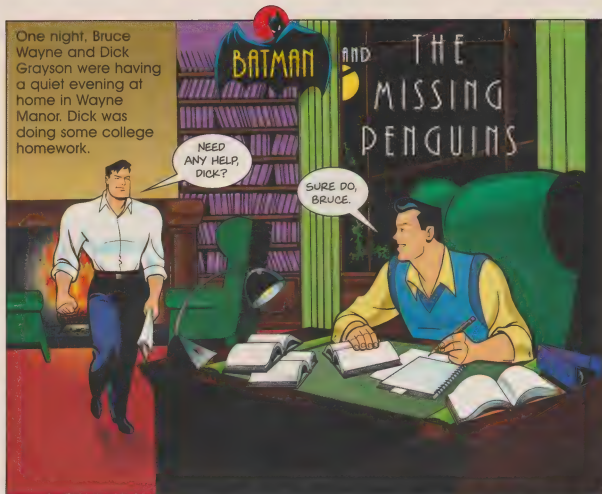
Name of parent/guardian

Address of parent/guardian

.....Postcode.....

Signature

No employee of The Redan Co. Ltd, Hasbro or DC Comics may enter. The editor's decision is final. No correspondence will be entered into. From time to time you may be sent information on products or services from us or other reputable companies which could be of interest to you. Please tick the box if you do not want to receive this. ☐ No purchase necessary.



...Batman and Robin! They rushed to the Batmobile.



At Police Headquarters, the Commissioner told them that all the penguins had been stolen from the Gotham City Zoo.



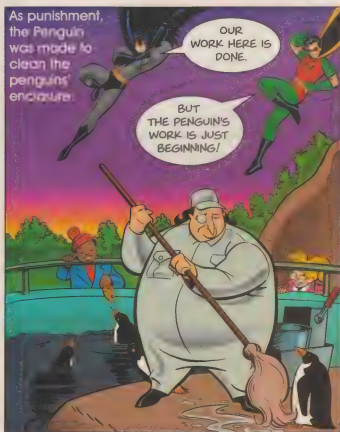
Batman knew that the arch villain, the Penguin, would be interested in the birds. But where could he have taken them?





Sure enough, as the crime fighters raced into the freezing factory, they found the Penguin and all the stolen birds.





PICK THE PENGUIN

Here's a puzzle for the picky! Five of the penguins below have a twin—one does not. Look carefully at the birds. Then draw lines joining each pair and draw a circle around the penguin without a twin.



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9



10



11



Answers: The pairs are 1:9, 2:4, 3:10, 5:11, 6:7. The odd one out is 8.

VILLAIN PROFILE

The PENGUIN™



Other Identity:

Oswald
Chesterfield
Cobblepot

Occupation:

Criminal

Known Relatives:

None

Base of Operations:

Gotham City

Height: 5 feet 2"

Weight: 80 Kilos

Eyes: Black

Hair: Black

Psychological profile:

More than anything else, the Penguin wants to be accepted by high society. Though he dresses like an aristocrat, the Penguin is really a mean and vengeful crook at heart. He possesses a number of trick umbrellas that contain hidden items—everything from flame throwers and knock-out gas to miniature helicopter rotors that enable the Penguin to fly.

DYNAMIC DISPATCHES

YOU'VE ALL BEEN
SENDING US SO MANY GREAT
LETTERS AND PICTURES WE CAN HARDLY
SQUEEZE THEM INTO OUR OFFICES!
WE'RE SORRY WE CAN'T PUT ALL OF OUR
MAIL ON THESE TWO PAGES, BUT KEEP
LETTING US KNOW ABOUT YOUR FAVOURITE
STORIES AND CHARACTERS AND WE'LL
KEEP PRINTING AS MANY OF YOUR
LETTERS AS WE CAN IN
EACH ISSUE.

DEAR I LOVE TO READ BATMAN,
I REALLY ENJOY READING
BATMAN. MY FAVOURITE
CHARACTERS ARE BATMAN,
HAWKMAN AND THE FLASH.
I THINK THE PULL-OUT
WORKBOOK IS EXCELLENT.

MYLES GREEN, AGED 9



COIOR QUILLIGAN
LONDON



JACK BARNES
BEDINGTON

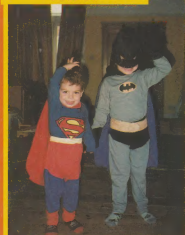


BY ROSS DAVIDSON
PORT LATHEN



BY LAURA CALLAGHAN
UDDINGSTON

GABRIEL AND JOSHUA NOBLE
LONDON



IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR LETTER, JOKE,
PICTURE OR PHOTOGRAPH PRINTED IN
I LOVE TO READ BATMAN, SEND IT TO:

THE EDITOR
C/O I LOVE TO READ BATMAN
DYNAMIC DISPATCHES
THE REDAN COMPANY
139 KING STREET
LONDON W6 9JG

SORRY WE CANNOT WRITE BACK TO YOU
INDIVIDUALLY BUT WE WILL PRINT AS MANY OF YOUR
LETTERS AS WE CAN. PLEASE REMEMBER TO INCLUDE
YOUR NAME, AGE, ADDRESS AND SAE IF YOU WANT
YOUR PHOTOGRAPHS ONLY RETURNED.



LEWIS & ADON DORIGO
KILWINNING

DEAR I LOVE TO READ BATMAN,
I SHARE MY COMIC WITH
DARYL, MY BROTHER, AND I
GET IT EVERY MONTH. MY
FAVOURITE VILLAIN IS
CATWOMAN.

RYAN BOYCE
IPSWICH



MAJED MALASS
CASTLEGATE

IN THE NEXT ISSUE...



The Prince of
Puzzlers is back
again. Convinced that
he is the
greatest puzzler
alive, the
Riddler holds up

the audience of a puzzlethon in
his attempt to convince them
too. *Riddle Me Free* is the story,
and you can read what
happens next month.

Wonder Woman
returns in the story,
On Wicked Wings.
When a creature from
Greek mythology finds
itself in modern
times, it wreaks
havoc on Gateway City.



Wonder Woman is the only person
able to find the secret behind its
antisocial behavior!



In our final story,
a precious
statue from the
Gotham City
Museum literally
disappears
during a magic

act. This leads Batman and a
magician on a dangerous
adventure to recover the missing
item in *Batman and the Magician*.

WIN A COMPUTER PETZ
CD ROM AND CHEW ON
YOUR FREE CHEW BAR!

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

As Batman hang glides to catch up with the Penguin, see if you can spot the 8 differences between these two pictures.



Answers: 1. Batman's harness straps, 2. The umbrella's handle, 3. The window beside the umbrella, 4. The edge of the lowest rooftop, 5. The Penguin's monocle, 6. The Penguin's bow tie, 7. The top of the money bag, 8. The top of the tallest building.